

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-16 (Cancel)

Claim 17 (Cancelled)

Claim 18 (Cancel)

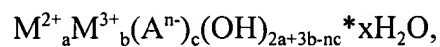
Claims 19-24 (Cancelled)

Claims 25-37 (Cancel)

Claims 38-43 (Cancelled)

Claims 44-49 (Cancel)

Claim 50 (Previously presented) A process for preparing a catalyst comprising at least one metal loaded on a hydrotalcite-based carrier material which has the following formula in its uncalcined form



wherein M^{2+} is at least one divalent metal; and M^{3+} is at least one trivalent metal;

A is an n-valent anion

n is 1 or 2,

c is 1 or 2,

and a and b are positive numbers, $a > b$; which process comprises:

- a) adding at least one metal salt or complex to the carrier material, of which the carrier material is (at least partly) in, or transformed to, the hydrotalcite phase during the metal addition step;
- b) followed by washing, and
- c) calcination.

Claim 51 (Previously presented) The process of claim 50, wherein the metal is at least one metal selected from Group VIII of the periodic table of elements.